THE LARGE KIVA

Bandelier National Monument, Sandoval County, New Mexico

NM NM 1-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
Southwest District

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY, John Gaw Meem, District Officer, Camino del Monte Sol, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

N.M.

THE LARGE KIVA

Bandelier National Monument, Sandoval County, New Mexico

Owner: United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Southwestern National Monuments, Coolidge, Arizona.

Date of Erection: Late prehistoric times; built or rebuilt in A. D. 1513.

Architect: None.

Builder: Pueblo Indians.

Present Conditions: Fair, roof destroyed; most of floor surfacing destroyed; walls partly destroyed and restored (stabilized by National Park Service.

Number of Stories: One.

Materials of Construction: Foundations and walls, rough field stone laid up in adobe mortar with adobe plaster on the interior; roof, vigas, vigitas (presumably) brush and earth.

Other Existing Records: Written records, photographs, J. W. Hendron, Jr., report on archaeology of Frijoles Canyon, published by the Southwestern National Monuments Association; also details of stabilization, in report by Hendron of work on large kiva to Southwestern National Monuments, Coolidge, Arizona; Bandelier and many other archaeologists have written on this project.

Additional Data: This subterranean kiva, estufa, or ceremonial chamber, is unusually large for the Rio Grande area, and there are several interesting and unusual features, notably the entrance-passage on the west side opposite the ventilator. This structure was excavated in 1908 by Dr. Edgar L. Hewitt, re-excavated and stabilized for the National Park Service in 1937 by J. W. Hendron, Jr. The probable construction date of A. D. 1513 is derived from tree ring analysis on the burned remains of one large viga; the associated pottery types make this date not improbable. Information furnished by Erik Reed, Regional Archaeologist, Region III, National Park Service, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

1940

Trent Thomas, Architect in Charge,

HABS, Southwest Unit.

Approved October /

John Gaw Meem,
District Officer.

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